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AT SEATTLE
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
DEPUTY

07-CV-01957-CMP

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

AEROTEL, LTD.; AEROTEL U.S.A., INC.; and AEROTEL U.S.A., LLC, Plaintiffs, v. T-MOBILE USA, INC., Defendant.	Case No. C07-1957JLR COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

(Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 4,706,275)

Plaintiffs Aerotel, Ltd., Aerotel U.S.A., Inc. and Aerotel U.S.A., LLC ("Aerotel"), for their complaint against T-Mobile USA, Inc. ("T-Mobile"), allege upon information and belief, except as to paragraphs 1-7 and 9-13, as follows:

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code.

2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338.

3. Venue is proper in this Judicial District under U.S.C. § 1391 (b) and (c) and 1400(b).

ORIGINAL

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Seattle, WA 98101-2325
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THE PARTIES

4. Plaintiff Aerotel, Ltd. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Israel, having its principal place of business at 19 Hamashbir Street, Holon 58856, Israel.

5. Plaintiff Aerotel U.S.A., Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, having a principal place of business at 608 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300, New York, New York 10020.

6. Plaintiff Aerotel U.S.A., LLC is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, having a principal place of business at 6 Coachmans Court, Old Westbury, New York 11568.

7. All three Aerotel plaintiffs are commonly owned. Plaintiffs Aerotel U.S.A., Inc. and Aerotel U.S.A., LLC are the exclusive managing agents of plaintiff Aerotel, Ltd., responsible for licensing and enforcing Aerotel, Ltd.'s U.S. Patent No. 4,706,275.

8. Defendant T-Mobile, formerly Voicestream Wireless Corporation and Powertel, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware having its principal place of business at 12920 SE 38th Street, Bellevue, Washington 98006. T-Mobile is a wholly-owned subsidiary of T-Mobile International AG & Co. KG, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom AG, Bonn, Germany. T-Mobile is registered and authorized to do business in the State of Washington. T-Mobile through and with its representatives, subsidiaries, affiliates, and distributors is a provider of wholesale and retail telecommunications services and equipment, including prepaid wireless telecommunications products and services. T-Mobile has been, and is now, doing business in this Judicial District and elsewhere through its sales representatives, subsidiaries, affiliates, and distributors.

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INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 4,706,275

9. United States Patent No. 4,706,275, entitled "Telephone System," (the "'275 patent"), issued on November 10, 1987 to Aerotel, Ltd. as the assignee, and Zvi Kami as the named inventor. The '275 patent is directed to methods and systems for making prepaid telephone calls. A copy of the "275 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

10. A reexamination certificate, with no amendments to the '275 patent, was issued to Aerotel, Ltd. on April 8, 2003. A copy of the April 8, 2003 reexamination certificate is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

11. A reexamination certificate, with no amendments to the '275 patent, was issued to Aerotel on June 28, 2006. A copy of the June 28, 2006 reexamination certificate is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

12. Aerotel, Ltd is the lawful owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '275 patent, including all right to recover for past infringement. Aerotel U.S.A., Inc. and Aerotel U.S.A., LLC are the exclusive managing agents for Aerotel, Ltd. in the United States and their responsibilities include the right to license and enforce the '275 patent, including the right to recover for past infringement in the United States.

13. The '275 patent expired on November 13, 2005.

14. During the term of the '275 patent, T-Mobile infringed the '275 patent under any of 35 U.S.C. §§ 271(a), (b) or (c), either literally or by the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell, and/or selling within the United States or supplying or causing to be supplied in or from the United States, or intentionally inducing others to make, use, offer to sell, or sell in the United States or supply or cause to be supplied in or from the United States, without authority from Aerotel, prepaid wireless telecommunications products and services that are covered by one or more claims of the '275 patent. More specifically, the infringing products and services include prepaid wireless

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telecommunications products (e.g., prepaid wireless refill cards) and services (e.g., prepaid telephone service using a wireless telephone), including but not limited to products marketed by T-Mobile under the brand names "T-Mobile To Go" and "T-Mobile EasySpeak".

15. T-Mobile has been aware of the existence of the '275 patent, but nevertheless has infringed the '275 patent during the term of the '275 patent. T-Mobile's infringements of the '275 patent have been willful and deliberate and in total disregard for Aerotel's lawful rights under the '275 patent, thus rendering this case "exceptional" as that term is set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 285.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs Aerotel respectfully request that this Court enter a Judgment:

A. Adjudging that Aerotel is the lawful owner of the '275 patent, including all rights to recover for past infringement therefore; that the '275 patent is valid and enforceable; that T-Mobile has infringed and induced infringement of the '275 patent; and that such infringement and inducement of infringement was willful and deliberate;

B. Awarding Aerotel its damages, together with prejudgment interest and costs as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 284;

C. Trebling the damages awarded, as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 284;

D. Declaring this an exceptional case as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 285;

E. Awarding Aerotel its costs and disbursements in this action, including reasonable attorneys' fees; and

F. Awarding Aerotel such other and further relief as Aerotel may be entitled to, and as the Court may deem just and proper.

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JURY DEMAND

Aerotel respectfully demands a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure of any and all issues triable of right by a jury in the above-captioned case.

DATED: December 6, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW LLP

By: ______________________________

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61227224 v1

United States Patent [19]

Kamil

[11] **Patent Number: 4,706,275**

[45] **Date of Patent: Nov. 10, 1987**

[54] **TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

[75] Inventor: **Zvi Kamil**, Ramat Gan, Israel

[73] Assignee: **Aerotel Ltd.**, Ramat Gan, Ill.X

[21] Appl. No.: **797,658**

[22] Filed: **Nov. 13, 1985**

[51] Int. Cl.[4] **H04M 17/02**

[52] U.S. Cl. **379/144**; 379/154; 379/155

[58] Field of Search .... 179/6.3 R, 6.3 CC, 2 CA, 179/7.1 R, 7.1 TP, 8 A; 379/143, 144, 154, 155, 146

[56] **References Cited**

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4,439,636	3/1984	Newkirk et al.	179/7.1 R
4,595,983	6/1986	Gehalo et al.	179/6.3 R

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Primary Examiner—James L. Dwyer
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Sandler & Greenblum

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A telephone system enabling prepayment for telephone calls, wherein special code and credit information is stored in memory in special exchanges and debited as the call progresses.

23 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures

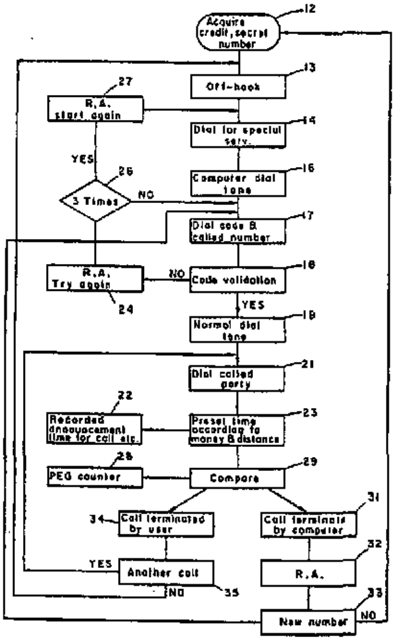
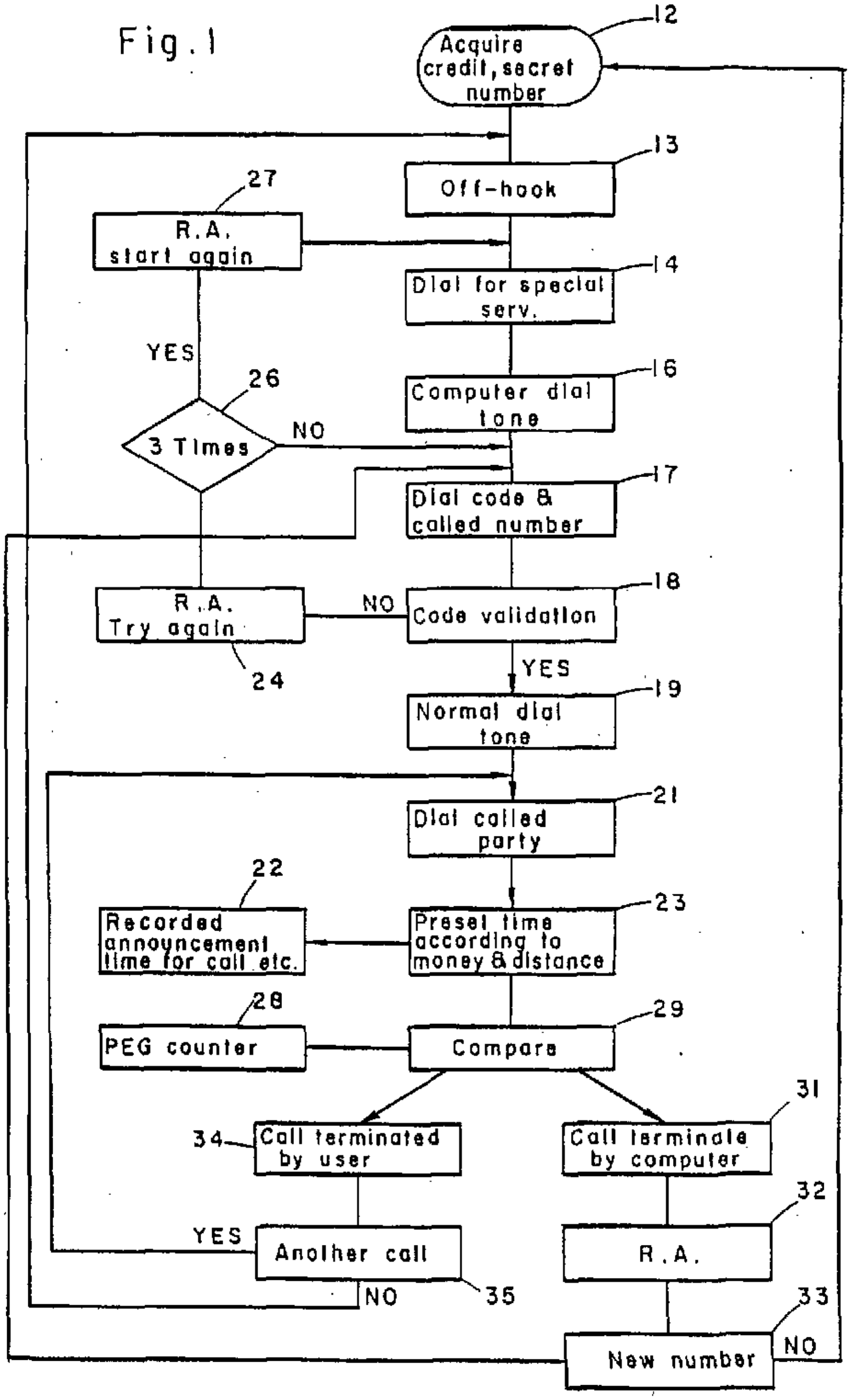
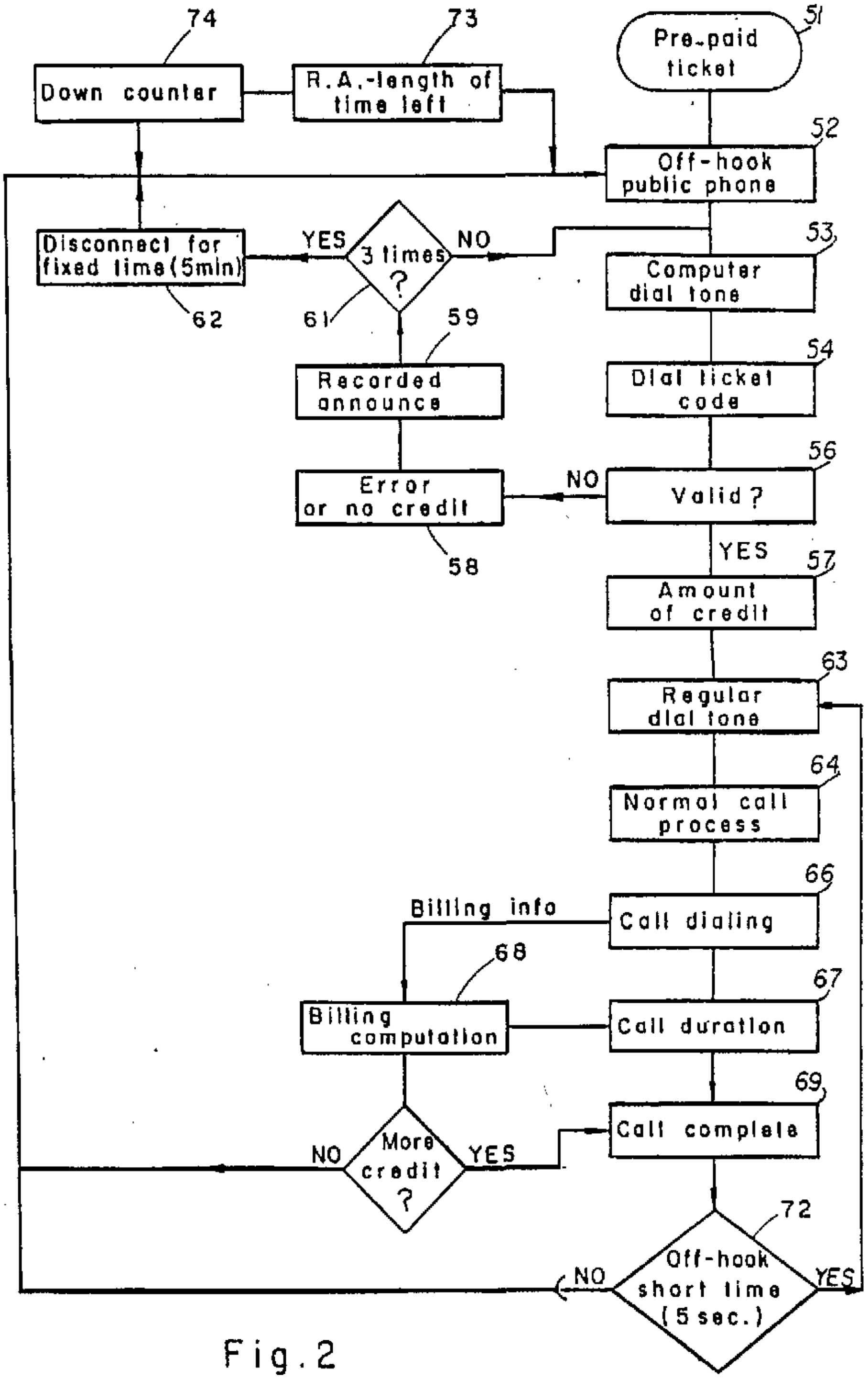

Acquire credit, secret number
12
Off-hook
13
R.A. start again
27
Dial for special serv.
14
YES
3 Times
26
NO
Computer dial tone
16
Dial code & called number
17
R.A. Try again
24
NO
Code validation
18
YES
Normal dial tone
19
Dial called party
21
Recorded announcement time for call etc.
22
Preset time according to money & distance
23
PEG counter
28
Compare
29
Call terminated by user
34
Call terminate by computer
31
YES
Another call
NO
35
R.A.
32
New number
33
NO

Fig. 1


12
Acquire credit, secret number
13
Off-hook
27
R.A. start again
14
Dial for special serv.
YES
16
Computer dial tone
26
3 Times
NO
17
Dial code & called number
18
R.A. Try again
NO
Code validation
24
YES
19
Normal dial tone
21
Dial called party
22
23
Recorded announcement time for call etc.
Preset time according to money & distance
28
29
PEG counter
Compare
31
34
Call terminated by user
Call terminate by computer
32
YES
Another call
R.A.
NO
35
33
New number
NO



74
Down counter
73
R.A.-length of time left
51
Pre-paid ticket
52
Off-hook public phone
Disconnect for fixed time (5min)
YES
3 times ?
NO
53
Computer dial tone
62
61
59
Recorded announce
54
Dial ticket code
Error or no credit
NO
56
Valid ?
58
YES
57
Amount of credit
63
Regular dial tone
64
Normal call process
66
Billing info
Call dialing
68
Billing computation
67
Call duration
69
Call complete
NO
More credit ?
YES
72
NO
Off-hook short time (5 sec.)
YES

Fig. 2

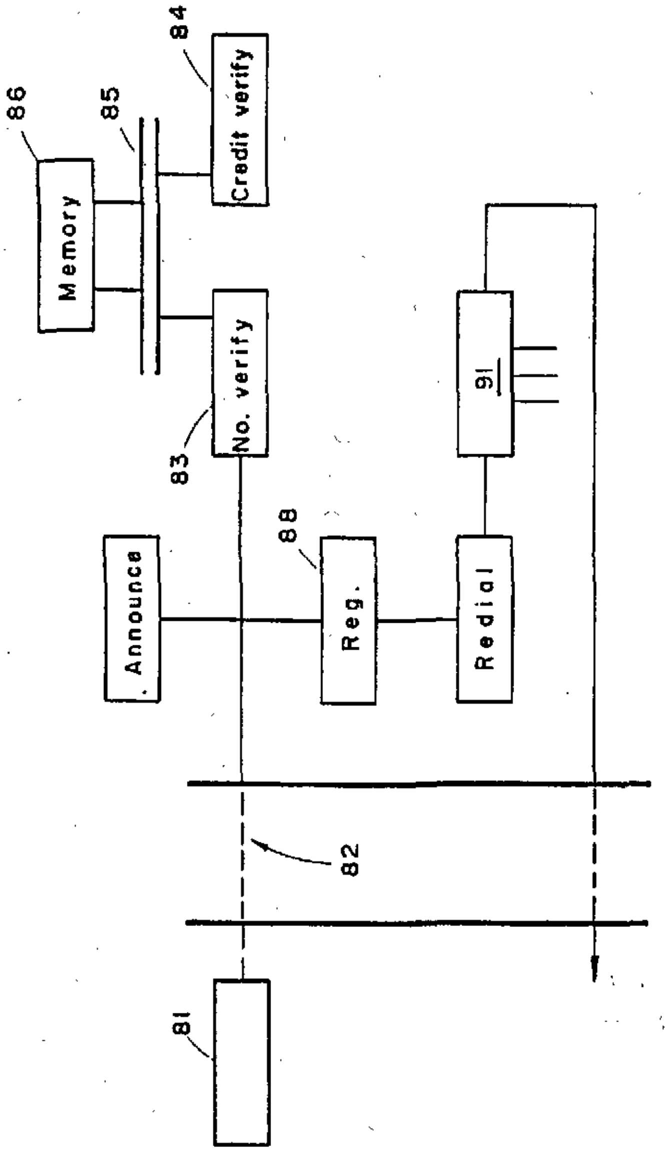

84
86
85
Credit verify
Memory
No. verify
83
91
88
Announce
Reg.
Redial
82
81

Fig. 3

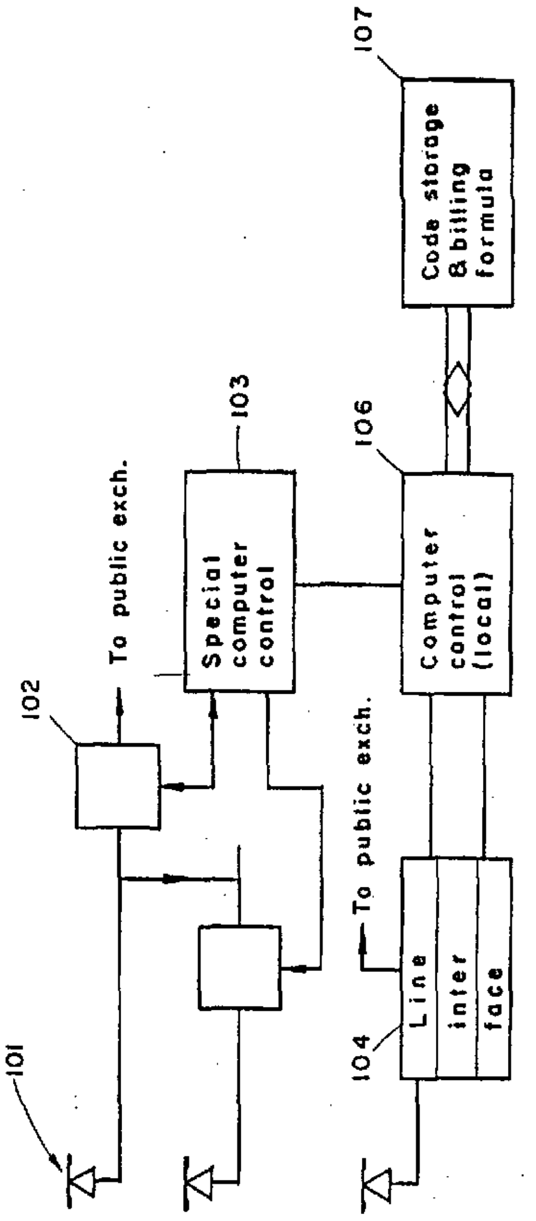

107
Code storage
& billing
formula
103
Special
computer
control
106
Computer
control
(local)
To public exch.
102
To public exch.
101
104
Line
inter
face

Fig. 4

TELEPHONE SYSTEM

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention is concerned with telephone systems and more particularly with telephone systems wherein when a prepayment is in force the prepaid party can use any telephone for completing telephone calls including toll calls. The telephone system includes public phones dedicated to use by prepaid parties.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Telephones are generally available almost everywhere. Most telephones are private and any telephone calls are charged to the telephone on a monthly or bimonthly basis. It is not always possible or convenient to determine the time and charges for a single telephone call as it is made. Accordingly the use of somebody else's phone is many times awkward.

Further, toll or long distance telephone calls are used more and more as people travel more and conduct business on a less localized basis. Presently long distance calls can be made by charging the call to a local telephone such as for example to a telephone in a hotel room. The long distance call can be made by instant payment such as for example when using a public payphone. The long distance call can be made by charging the call to the calling party's home or business telephone or by using a telephone company credit card number. The long distance call can also be made as a "collect call" where the called party has to accept the call and is then billed the time and charges for the call.

Each of these present day methods for making and paying for toll calls has significant detriments. For example when a call is charged to hotel room telephones the hotel adds its charges to the call thereby disproportionately increasing the cost of the call.

It is extremely difficult to make long distance calls from public payphones since it requires large amounts of the coins—not ordinarily carried about—especially when touring or on a business trip.

The use of credit card calls often result in mistaken charges billed to the telephone credit card number. Further to obtain a telephone credit requires credit checks and the establishment of credit often almost impossible to acquire.

Salesmen similarly should be able to call their home offices from a customer's telephone without having the call charged to the customer's telephone which is inconvenient or to their home office phone with the previously mentioned difficulties and the added cost.

Thus there is a long felt need for a system which enables making telephone calls including local or toll calls conveniently, inexpensively and from any telephone. Thus if a party wants to make a call, be it a local call or a long distance national or international call, he should be able to accomplish the call from the nearest available telephone.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

According to a broad aspect of the invention, a telephone system is provided for enabling prepayment of telephone calls, said system comprising:

means for coupling a calling party's station to a special central office for certifying said calling party responsive to a certified code transmitted from the calling party's station to the special central office when said calling party has a credit on a prepayment, and

means for enabling the connection of said calling party station to desired called party station responsive to said certification.

According to a feature of the invention means are provided in the special central station for further increasing the cost effectiveness of the system by selectively routing the call over the least expensive available lines.

A further feature of the invention provides for dedicated public paystations connected to the special central stations thereby enabling the use of the paystations to connect to called party telephone stations without the use of coins but instead by using said certifiable code.

According to another broad aspect of the present invention, a method enabling the coinless use of dedicated public telephones is provided, said method comprising the steps of:

connecting calling station dial means to a special central station,

transmitting identification signals from the station to the central station, said identification signals generated responsive to the operation of the station dial means or other signal means;

comparing calling party dialed signals to said identification signals stored at said central station for verification, and

connecting the calling station to a called station if there is verification.

According to a feature of the invention the verification includes a code number verification as well as a credit verification.

According to another feature of the invention the connection is automatically opened when means such as a peg counter indicates that the calling party has reached a credit limit.

Yet another feature of the present invention includes connecting a special dial tone from the central station to indicate that the dialing apparatus of the calling party station has been connected to the computer. A regular dial tone is transmitted to the calling party station when verification is complete and successful; that is, when the calling party has used the proper code number and has credit in his account to enable the call. Credit of course can be established by the desposit of money with the telephone company sufficient to make a certain number of calls.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above mentioned and other objects and features of the present invention will be best understood when considered in conjunction with the following description of the invention, explained with the aid of the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a flow chart showing the inventive use of any private telephone by a prepaid customer,

FIG. 2 is a flow chart showing the inventive use of dedicated paystations not requiring coins or special slugs,

FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing of parts of the telephone system necessary for carrying out the invention, and

FIG. 4 is a block diagram view of a typical telephone system for using the invention.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The customer, such as a regular telephone user or a traveller acquires a special code, a credit amount and the telephone number of the special central offices by either a cash or credit card payment. The code, the credit amount and telephone numbers may be acquired, for example through the regular credit card companies and charged to the acquirer's credit card. Alternatively, the credit amount, the telephone numbers and identifying code can be purchased at sales points such as in airports, hotels, rent-a-car stations and the like. The amount paid is credited to the acquirer for use against future telephone calls. The credited amount is stored in a memory at the special central office along with the special code. The acquisition of the code and telephone number is indicated at block 12 of FIG. 1.

Subsequently therto, the acquiring party wishes to make a telephone call which may be a local call or a toll call. He uses the nearest available telephone, removes the handset and dials a special central office, as indicated at blocks 13 and 14. The telephone in this example is a private station. When he is connected to the special central office (traveller phone services office) or exchange, 14, a special dial tone is sent from the special exchange to the calling station. When the calling party hears the special dial tone; indicating that the computer at the exchange is ready for him he dials the identifying code and the called number he wants as indicated at block 17. The computer at the special exchange checks the code and registers the desired called number.

If the code number is a genuine code with credit i.e. valid as indicated at block 18 and 19 a regular dial tone is sent to the calling party station as he is connected to the regular telephone system. The computer at the special exchange routes the call on the most economical available lines. According to prior arrangements with long distance line suppliers if it is a toll call.

The calling party's predialed numbers are transmitted as indicated at block 21. Of course the system can be arranged so that the calling party dials the called party responsive to receipt of regular dial tone.

In a preferred embodiment the special exchange equipment provides an artifical or prerecorded voice announcement stating the amount of credit available and that the amount of credit is equivalent to so many minutes of talking time on the call being connected. This announcement is actively shown at block 22. The announcement is made according to the charge rate for the distance between calling and called parties shown at block 23.

In a preferred embodiment the credit check is accomplished contemperaneously with the number code verification. If the code is invalid an announcement is made advising the customer to try again as shown at block 24. The customer is allowed a plurality of tries (such as three) before being disconnected from the special central office as shown at blocks 26 and 27. If he is trying again for the second and third times he is reconnected to receive the special dial tone. After the third time he is released from the special exchange after receiving a recorded announcement explaining that the code is not valid.

It is within the scope of the invention as previously desribed for the calling party to dial while the verification is being accomplished, in which case when the calling party hears normal dial tone, a register in the exchange can then input the dialed information to cause the exchange to complete the call between the calling party and the called party.

At this time as indicated by block 28 the normal time and distance computing circuit is shown as a peg counter, is put into service to provide information for timing the call against the available credit. The information from the peg counter is sent to a comparator 29 to continuously determine whether the calling party's credit is sufficient to pay for the call. When the credit equals the used time rate the call is automatically ended by the computer as indicated by the block 31.

Block 31 opens the connection between the calling and called party, the connection to the computer however remains and an announcement is made to notify the customer to insert another code number, if available. This activity is indicated at block 32. If a new code number is not inserted as indicated in block 33 by the yes output, then the calling party again received dial tone and can dial a new called party. In other words he goes back to the input to block 17 where he has computer tone and he is told to dial the code number and the calling party number. All the steps of block 17, 19, 21 etc are repeated and the new call is connected. If he does not have a new code number, then the connection between the computer and the calling party is open. The calling party is then merely off-hook with a phone set.

The call can also be terminated after block 29 by the user customer as indicated at block 34. In other words the call can be disconnected by the computer if he runs out of time or by the user. When the call is terminated by the user, and he still has credit, he is again connected to normal dial tone, and he merely has to dial another call, if he so desires. If he does not want to dial another call, then he returns the handset to the hookswitch. If he does not want to make another call he dials the number after hearing normal dial tone at the input block 19. Thus the customer does not have to repeat the entire connection back to the computer and have the validation procedure repeated. He had already been checked and validated and therefore he is connected to a normal dial tone. The process is repeated as long as credit remains.

FIG. 2 is the flow chart showing the use of dedicated public telephone. Here again the customer calling party must have a prepaid code number as indicated at 51. He goes off hook with the dedicated public telephone, indicated at block 52. The calling station receives computer dial tones as soon as going off hook as indicated at block 53. He then dials in the secret code number as indicated at block 54 and the system checks to see if he has a valid ticket number, if he does as indicated in block 56, he is visually or audibaly notified of the amount of credit available in his code as indicated in block 57.

If he does not have a valid code then as indicated in block 58 he is notified that he has inserted an invalid code. In a preferred embodiment a recorded message is sent as shown in block 59, and he is told that he has dialed an invalid code. He is allowed to err a plurality of times, say three as indicated at block 61.

If the inputted code is invalid less than three times, then he is again connected to the computer dial tone. If an invalid code is inputted more than three times then the phone is disconnected for a time period (say five minutes) as indicated at block 62. The disconnected time is to discourage practical jokers or anybody maliciously trying to tie up the telephone. After the five minutes time out the phone is returned to its normal operating capabilities. A recorded message indicated at block 73, may be sent to notify potential users that this phone is out of order for diminishing periods of time i.e. 3 minutes, 4 minutes etc.

After verification of the code number and credit the calling party is connected to the regular telephone system and receives regular dial tone as indicated at block 63. The calling party goes through the normal call process indicated in block 64. Responsive to his dialing indicated at block 66 he is given a call duration announcement indicating the length of call time his credit amount will allow. Block 67 also indicates the time change rate of the call this information is continuously computed and subtracted from the credit amount. The call can be terminated as indicated in block 69 either because no more credit or by the user. The user terminates by dialing a special code for example or by closing the hook switch to say ten seconds when there is any more credit left, as indicated at block 71 the calling party is directed back to regular dial tone i.e. to the input of block 63 as indicated in block 72. If there is no credit left then the calling party phone is back to where the phone is connected to the computer and receiving computer dial tone. if he does not dial in his code number after a given time period he is disconnected. In a preferred embodiment he is notified to input a code or be disconnected. This is indicated at block 73 and 74.

In FIG. 3 the basic operation of the prepaid telephone call system is shown in block diagram form. The calling phone is indicated at 81. The telephone 81 is connected to a regular telephone system indicated at 82. The calling party dials the special charge number and by a code number verifier 83. The code number verifier looks into a section of the memory as indicated by the code to verify that the code is valid. When a valid code is confirmed the credit for that code is checked in the memory to determine how much credit is left. The announcing system for the purposes indicated in the flow diagram is shown at 87.

It should be understood that while announcement are shown, visual indication can also be used. However in a preferred embodiment audio announcement are used. When the number and credit are verified, the calling party is then connected through a register indicated at 88, to a re-dialer 89. The register stores the called number received from the calling party and directs the redialer 89 to dial the number after verification, the dialed number or dial tones are directed through router 91 to the regular telephone system. The router selects the best possible route cost-wise for the particular call if it is toll call.

The number verifier and credit verifier circuits are connected through a memory 86 through a bus 85. The memory is compartmentilized so that the code number can be easily checked through checking only a portion of the memory according to the code. Similarly verification of credit can be made once the code is verified by checking a separate portion of memory. The entire system is under the control of the local and routing computers 95.

FIG. 4 shows the dedicated public telephone in block diagram form. Herein the dedicated phones are shown at 101. The dedicated phones are connected through switches such as switch 102, and a regular exchange, to the special exchange. A special computer control 103 is located at the public exchange operated through a line interface 104. The telephones 101 are connected to the computer control 106 for code and credit verification in conjunction with memory 107. The dedicated telephone operates in much the same way as the private phone a difference in the special computer control used to time out the dedicated public telephone.

Thus, a telephone system is provided that can utilize prepayment for telephone calls which can be made from any telephone or from dedicated telephones.

The calling customer has the ability to disconnect from the called party and stay connected to the special exchange by dialing a special number for example. He can switch to another code number during the call, before the call and after the call and still remain connected to the special central office.

With the dedicated telephone when the calling party replaces the hand set the hook switch a short delay of say 10 seconds have passed, an announcement is made to the calling party notifying the calling party that he may call another party without calling the computer again within the allocated time.

According to a preferred embodiment special codes say 999 can be used to terminate a call. The calling party can then get another call without having to redial the special exchange and his code. Another special code say 888 can be used to input more credit with another code number.

It should be understood that when the calling party's credit is checked to institute a call and also during the call the position in the memory is supplied with a disenabling code to prevent the simultaneous use of the two different telephones on the same code. In addition the codes each have a home memory which other special exchanges can check.

Accordingly, a method of using any telephone for prepaid telephone calls is provided. A system is thus provided that benefits travellers and others having the need for the available of telephone service form any telephone.

While the invention is described using the example embodiment and method, it should be understood that this description is made by way of example only and not as a limitation on the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A unique method for making telephone calls from any available telephone, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining a special code by depositing a prepayment amount;

(b) storing the prepayment amount in a memory in a special exchange for use in verifying calling party calls;

(c) dialing said special exchange when a telephone call connection is desired;

(d) inputting such special code for verification;

(e) inputting the number of the called party;

(f) verifying the special code and comparing the prepayment amount less any deduction for previous calls in the memory and the minimum cost of the inputted call;

(g) connecting called party to the calling party in response to the verification;

(h) monitoring the prepayment amount less deductions for the running cost of the call; and

(i) disconnecting said call when the prepayment amount has been spent.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein sad connecting step includes special routing.

3. The method of claim 1 including retaining the connection between the calling station and the special exchange for a set period of time after the call is terminated.

4. The method of claim 1 including the step of preventing reconnecting the calling party to the special exchange for a definite time period after a set number of no verification encounters.

5. The method of claim 1 including the step of interconnecting a plurality of special exchanges, and
exchanging code and credit information between the interconnected special exchanges.

6. The methof of claim 1 including the step of disconnecting the called party station while keeping the calling party station connected to the special exchange to enable the calling party to connect to another called party.

7. The method of claim 1 including the step of adding to the prepayment while connected to the special exchange.

8. The method of claim 1 including the step of preventing the use of the same special code from different calling party stations at the same time.

9. A telephone system for facilitating telephone calls including toll calls from any available telephone station for prepaid customers, said system comprising:

(a) means for coupling a calling party station to a special exchange;

(b) memory means in said special exchange for storing special customer codes and credit information individual to each prepaid customer;

(c) means for verifying said calling party responsive to a code transmitted from the calling party's station to the special exchange when one of the codes matches the code in the memory means and the calling party has unused credit and;

(d) means for completing a call from said calling party station to a called station responsive to said verification, said means for verifying including means for monitoring the credit of the calling party during a completed call.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein said means for completing includes least cost routing means.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein said least cost routing means includes means for choosing between long lines, satellite and/or microwave links.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein said means for monitoring includes means for continuously monitoring the credit of the calling party during a completed call.

13. The system of claim 12 including peg counter means for indicating that the prepaid customer has reached its credit limit.

14. The system of claim 11 wherein said calling station is a dedicated public phone including means for coinless coupling to said special exchange.

15. The system of claim 11 wherein timing means are provided for retaining the coupling between said calling party station and said special exchange for a certain time period after the called party station goes on hook.

16. The system of claim 11 including special dial tone generating means for indicating connection of the calling station to said special exchange.

17. The system of claim 11 including means for notifying the prepaid customer of the amount of credit available.

18. The system of claim 11 and means for preventing recoupling to said special exchange for a set time period responsive to a certain number of consecutive no verification occurences.

19. The system of claim 11 and means for interconnecting a plurality of special exchanges to enable the interchange of code and credit information.

20. The system of claim 11 and means for disconnecting the called party station while keeping the calling party station coupled to the special exchange to enable the calling party to dial another called station through the special exchange.

21. The system of claim 11 and means for adding credit while coupled to the special exchange.

22. The system of claim 11 and means for preventing use of the same special code from two different calling party stations at the same time.

23. A method for making telephone calls comprising:

(a) issuing a valid special code to a calling party when a prepayment amount is deposited to the credit of said calling party;

(b) storing the prepayment amount in a memory in a special exchange;

(c) dialing said special exchange when the calling party wishes to make a telephone call to a called party;

(d) inputting a special code and the number of the called party;

(e) connecting the calling party to the called party only if the special code inputted by the calling party is a valid special code, and in addition, only if the current initial prepayment amount in the memory exceeds the minimum cost of a call to the inputted number;

(f) monitoring the running cost of the call in accordance with its duration;

(g) disconnecting the calling party from the called party when the calling party hangs up, or when the running cost of the call exceeds the current initial prepayment amount, whichever occurs first; and

(h) deducting from the initial prepayment amount the running cost of the call.

* * * * *

(12) **REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE** (4758th)

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Kamil

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(54) **TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

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Primary Examiner—Rexford Barnie

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A telephone system enabling prepayment for telephone calls, wherein special code and credit information is stored in memory in special exchanges and debited as the call progresses.

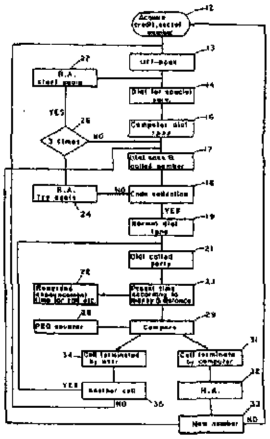

Exhibit B

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REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 307

NO AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE PATENT

AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT:

The patentability of claims **1–23** is confirmed.

* * * * *

US004706275C2

(12) **EX PARTE REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE** (5433rd)

United States Patent
Kamil

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(45) **Certificate Issued: Jun. 27, 2006**

(54) **TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

(75) Inventor: **Zvi Kamil**, Ramat Gan (IL)

(73) Assignee: **Aerotel Ltd.**, Ramat Gan (IL)

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See application file for complete search history.

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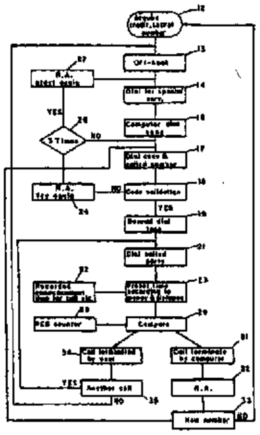
(Continued)

Primary Examiner—Rexford Barnie

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A telephone system enabling prepayment for telephone calls, wherein special code and credit information is stored in memory in special exchanges and debited as the call progresses.



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EX PARTE REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 307

NO AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE PATENT

AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT:

The patentability of claims **1**–**23** is confirmed.

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